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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Kikuo IWASAKA et al.

Group Art Unit : 3739

Appl. No. : 10/822,651

Examiner : LEUBECKER, John

Filed : April 13, 2004

Confirmation No. : 3102

For : FLEXIBLE TUBE FOR AN ENDOSCOPE

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

*Entered AF
8/22/06*
Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AF
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of May 11, 2006, which set a three-month shortened statutory period to expire on August 11, 2006, Applicants submit the amendments and remarks as follows for entry in the above-identified patent application and request reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of the application, in due course:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.